

# Claims

[c1] That which is claimed is:

1. A process comprising the steps of:  
having a person write a check to a merchant, having said  
merchant forward that check to the merchant's bank,  
having said merchant's bank forwarding said check to a  
clearing house, having said check being returned for in-  
sufficient funds, having said check being returned to  
said clearinghouse and having said clearinghouse for-  
warding said check to a consolidated bank.

[c2] 2. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps  
of having said consolidated bank collect the funds from  
said person.

[c3] 3. A process according to claim 2 that includes the steps  
said system collect said funds through an electronic re-  
covery.

[c4] 4. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps  
of having said system charge said merchant a consolida-  
tion fee.

[c5] 5. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps  
of having said merchant endorsing the back of said

check specifying said consolidation bank as the return to bank.

- [c6] 6. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps of having said system debit said merchant's account for said returned check.
- [c7] 7. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps of having said system debit a system account for said returned check.
- [c8] 8. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps of having said merchant being a restaurant.
- [c9] 9. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps of notifying said merchant of said check.
- [c10] 10. A process according to claim 9 where said notification is done electronically.
- [c11] 11. A process according to claim 9 where said notification is done through the mail.
- [c12] 12. A process according to claim 9 where said notification is done through a facsimile.
- [c13] 13. A process according to claim 9 where said notification is done through the Internet.
- [c14] 14. A process according to claim 9 where said notification

tion is done through an E-mail.

- [c15] 15. A process according to claim 1 that includes the steps of notifying said merchant of person who wrote NSF checks.
- [c16] 16. A process according to claim 15 where said notification is done electronically.
- [c17] 17. A process according to claim 15 where said notification is done through the mail.
- [c18] 18. A process according to claim 15 where said notification is done through a facsimile.
- [c19] 19. A process according to claim 15 where said notification is done through the Internet.
- [c20] 20. A process according to claim 1 which includes the step of having said system guarantee the payment of said check.